

Message Text

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12

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-03 NSF-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: USINJC, TECH, IN

SUBJECT: INDO-US SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SUBCOMMISSION

REF: NEW DELHI 10124

1. WE BELIEVE THAT IN PRINCIPLE JOINT COMMISSION ACTIVITIES SHOULD ROTATE BETWEEN US AND INDIA AND THAT THEREFORE NEXT S&T MEETING SHOULD BE HELD IN NEW DELHI. TO ALLOW ADEQUATE TIME FOR FOLLOW-UP ACTION ON S&T PROBLEMS BEFORE FULL JOINT COMMISSION MEETING NOW TENTATIVELY FORESEEN FOR FIRST WEEK OF OCTOBER, WE BELIEVE THAT S&T SUBCOMMISSION MEETING SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN EARLY SEPTEMBER, PREFERABLY WEEK BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 8. UNLESS EMBASSY SEES SOME OBJECTION, YOU SHOULD PROPOSE TO GOI THAT S&T SUBCOMMISSION MEET IN NEW DELHI FOR TWO DAYS, PREFERABLY SEPT. 9-10 OR 10-11. WE INTEND TO MAKE SAME PROPOSAL TO INDIAN EMBASSY THIS WEEK.

2. EMBASSY'S PROPOSAL FOR FORMAL JOINT COMMISSION PLEDGE
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TO SUPPORT MUTUALLY AGREED PROJECTS STRIKES US INITIALLY AS UNNECESSARY AND PERHAPS BUREAUCRATICALLY AWKWARD. PROBLEM IN PAST HAS NOT BEEN LACK OF PROPER CLEARANCES BY GOI BUT RATHER LACK OF POLITICAL WILL BY GOI TO DEFEND JOINT

PROJECTS FROM UNWARRANTED CRITICISM. WE ARE STILL WAITING
TO SEE HOW GOI WILL TRY TO REPAIR DAMAGE DONE BY PUBLIC
ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE CHARGES, PREFERABLY BY PUBLIC REFUTA-
TION. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY DUBS DISCUSSED THIS
GENERAL PROBLEM WITH DCM GONSALVES ON JULY 23. WHAT COULD
BE HELPFUL AND LESS FORMIDABLE MIGHT BE STATEMENT IN
COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT TIME OF JOINT COMMISSION MEETING THAT
TWO GOVERNMENTS VIEW WITH APPROVAL BOTH PROJECTS ALREADY
UNDERWAY AND AGREED TO UNDER EXISTING COOPERATIVE
MECHANISM AS WELL AS THOSE THAT MAY BE DEVELOPED AS A
RESULT OF JOINT COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS. INGERSOLL

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